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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MARLOW.
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1943.

"The Old House",
West Street,
MARLOW.

20th December, 1944.

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To the Chairman and Members of the
Marlow Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1943.

SECTION A. Statistics, & Social Conditions.

Area (in Acres)	1664
Estimated Population.	6207
Number of inhabited houses at 31st December, 1943.	2113
Rateable Value	£42,805.
Sum represented by a penny rate	£174.

The statistical returns are calculated on a population of 6,207, a figure supplied by the Registrar General.

		Total.	M.	F.
Live Births	Legitimate	103	59	44
	Illegitimate	7	1	6
	Stillbirths	7	3	4
	Deaths.	73	38	35

Birth rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population = 17.7

Birth rate for England & Wales = 16.5 per 1000.

Death Rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population = 11.7

Death Rate for England & Wales = 12.1 per 1000.

Population is counted as Resident Population differing from census figures.

Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings 29 & 30 of the Registrar General's Short List):-

	Deaths.	Rate per 1000 total (live & Still) births.
No. 29. Puerperal Sepsis	Nil	Nil
No. 30. Other puerperal causes	Nil	Nil
Total:-	Nil	Nil.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:-

All infants per 1,000 live births.	36.0
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate live births	38.8
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births	Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	11
" " Measles (all ages)	Nil
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age).	Nil.

SECTION B. General Provision of Health Services for the Urban District.

Public Health Staff.

The above consists of one part time Medical Officer of Health

and one Sanitary Inspector who is also the Surveyor to the Council. He holds the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Board and the Diploma of the Chartered Surveyors Institution and the Testamur of the Institution of Municipal & County Engineers. He was appointed in June, 1938.

Laboratory Facilities.

Diptheria swabs are examined for the Council at the Camberwell Research Laboratory.

Diptheria anti-toxin can be supplied free to practitioners and obtained from Mr. Bristow, Chemist, Oxford Road, High Wycombe.

Ambulance Facilities.

An ambulance is maintained for accidents and transport by the Local Corps of the St. John Ambulance Brigade. with the valuable help of the Red Cross Society

A similar ambulance is kept at Booker Isolation Hospital for the transport of fever cases. These services are satisfactory.

Nursing in the Home.

The Marlow Nursing Association provides 2 nurses who attend the sick ~~poor~~, except in infectious cases, at their own homes. They do the following up work in connection with the Schools and act as midwives for the District and heart training. The Nursing Association is supported by voluntary contributions, patients subscriptions, and grants from the County Council, and is not subsidised by the Urban District Council.

Treatment Centres & Clinics.

There has been no change in the provision of treatment centres since the last report.

Hospitals.

The Public Hospitals are the Metropolitan Hospitals, the Royal Berkshire Hospital, Reading, and the King Edward V11 Hospital, Windsor. In addition there is the Marlow Cottage Hospital which is supported by voluntary contributions.

SECTION C. Water.

Water for the District is supplied from the Marlow Water Company's deep wells. Considerable extensions and alterations to pumping stations and deep wells were completed in 1941. A new 500,000 gallon reservoir was completed in 1940.

Drainage & Sewerage.

The Sewage Disposal Works continue to function satisfactorily.

Rivers & Streams.

No action has been taken during the past year to check the pollution of rivers or streams in the area. The Thames Conservancy frequently take samples of the effluent from the Council's Sewerage Disposal Works.

Public Cleansing.

A satisfactory standard of Refuse Collection & Disposal, and Cesspool Cleansing has been maintained.

Sanitary Administration of the Area.

List of adoptive Acts in force in the district.

Infectious Disease Prevention Act, 1890.
Public Health Act, Amendment Act, 1890, Part III.
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, Sections 81 to 86 of Part 7 and Part 8 'HomeSecretary).
Part 2. (in so far as not repealed by the P.H.A. 1936).
Sections 53 and 54 in Part IV.
Sections 92 and 95, comprised in Part X.
Public Health Act, 1925 (Whole sections except Section 20 (Repealed) and 21 contained in Part 2).

Byelaws.
Buildings.
New Streets.
Common Lodging Houses.
Slaughter Houses.
Cleansing of Footways.
Cleansing of Privies.
Prevention of Nuisance from Snow, Keeping of Animals etc., Removal of House Refuse.
With respect to Tents, Vans, Sheds, and similar structures used for Human Habitation.
Public Conveniences.
Pleasure Grounds.
Petrol Filling Stations (Byelaws made by the County Council but enforceable by the Local Authority).

Statement of Works of Sanitary Inspector under Art. 27 of Sanitary Officers Order 1935.

Acts and Sections.	Informal Notices Served.	Complied With	Not Complied With	In Progress.
P.H.A. 1936, Sec. 75	2	2	-	-
Sec. 92.	3	3	-	-
Housing Act, 1936, Sec. 9.	3	3	-	-
Total.	8	8	-	-

One statutory notice was served during the year under Section 83 of the Public Health Act, 1936. The notice was not complied with, but the requisite work was carried out by the Council. Subsequently, the cost of the work was recovered in the County Court.

Food Preparing Places.

Necessary inspections have been carried out from time to time.

Camping Sites.

There are no camping sites within the area and no licences have been issued by the Council Under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Swimming Facilities.

The Council maintain a Bathing Place on the River Thames, where facilities for teaching school children are provided.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

During the year six houses were infested with bed bugs, and were disinfested by the application of Zaldecide. This work is carried out by the Council's employees. In one case gas was employed for destruction.

SECTION D. Housing.

Number of Houses erected during the year.

(a) By private enterprise - Nil
(b) With state assistance - Nil

Total: Nil

(1). Unfit Dwellinghouses.

(a). The total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects under the Public Health and Housing Acts ... ... 12.

(b). Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be not fit for human habitation ... ... 3.

(c). Number of dwellinghouses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925 ... ... Nil.

(d). Number of houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ... Nil.

(II). Remedy of Defects without service of formal notices.

Number of defective dwellinghouses made fit in consequence of informal action being taken by the Local Authority or their Officers ... ... 3.

(III). Action taken under Statutory Powers.

A. Proceedings under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1). Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices have been served requiring repairs ... ... Nil.

(2). Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit by owner ... Nil.

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1). Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were found and notices werved requiring defects to be remedied. ... ... Nil.

(2). Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied. ... ... Nil.

(a) By owner Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default. Nil.

C. Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1). Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which demolition orders were made ... ... Nil.

(2). Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders ... ... Nil.

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1). Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made ... ..., Nil.

(2). Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined but tenement or room having been rendered fit ... Nil.

(IV). Housing Act, 1936, Part (4). - Overcrowding.

No action has been taken in regard to overcrowding during the year in view of the fact that this district is a reception area and there has been during the whole of the war period a shortage of dwelling accommodation.

SECTION E. Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(a) Milk Supply. - The necessary inspections of farms and daries have been carried out throughout the year.

(b). Meat and Other Foods. - Slaughtering for the whole of the Urban District and a large portion of the Wycombe Rural District has been carried out at a Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse in the District. During the Year the inspection of carcases has been maintained by your Sanitary Inspector.

The following amounts of meat have been condemned:-

Beef.				Mutton.				Livers.				Offal.				Total.			
T.	C.	Q.	lbs.	T.	C.	Q.	lbs.	T.	C.	Q.	lbs.	T.	C.	Q.	lbs.	T.	C.	Q.	lbs.
3.	11.	2.	5.	-	4.	0.	1.	1.	6.	2.	27½	1.	6.	3.	25.	6.	19.	1.	2½

whilst the following statement shows the number of animals slaughtered:-

Beasts.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs.	Calves.	Total.
1442	5976	121	1008	8547

SECTION F. Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious & Other Diseases.

Notifiable Diseases during the Year.

Diptheria.	1.
Scarlet Fever.	7.
Puerperal Pyrexia.	Nil.
Pnuemonia.	1.
Erysipelas.	Nil.
Enteric Fever.	Nil.
Smallpox.	Nil.
Measles.	11.

Deaths occurred from the following causes.

	M.	F.
Measles.	-	-
Influenza.	-	2
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System	1	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis	-	2
Cancer.	7	4
Diabetes.	-	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage.	4	6
Heart Disease.	9	11
Other Circulatory Diseases.	1	-
Pneumonia (all forms)	-	-
Bronchitis	3	2
Other Respiratory Diseases.	1	1
Ulcer of Stomach or duodenum	1	-
Diarrhoea, under two years.	-	-
Acute and chronic Nephritis.	1	2
Congenital Debility and Malformation and Premature Birth	3	2
Senility.	-	-
Suicide	2	-
Violence.	1	-
Road Traffic Accidents	1	-
Other defined diseases	3	1
All causes.	38	35

Prevention of Blindness.

No action has been taken under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the prevention of blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes.

Tuberculosis. New Cases and Mortality during 1943.

Age Periods, inclusive.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1 ... 4								
5 ...14								
15 ...24								
25 ...34	1	1						
35 ...44								
45 ...54								
55....64								
65 & upwards.			1					
Totals.	1	1	1	Nil	1	1	-	2

The Factories Act, 1937.

Inspections have been made of premises within the Urban District coming within the scope of this Act.

~~A separate return of inspections made and defects found, and list of outworkers has been forwarded to the Secretary of State.~~

My thanks are due to Mr. Kelvin Smith, our Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector, for the keeness and ability with which he has carried out his duties since his appointment in June, 1938.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours very truly,

(Sgd). F.H.P. Wills,
Medical Officer of Health.